

(Washington, DC)- Today Congresswoman Gwen Moore and Senator Herb Kohl announced that the FY2006 Transportation appropriations bill includes \$2.125 million for the Wisconsin Department of Transportation (DOT) to fund bus acquisitions and other capital needs of forty-eight Wisconsin urban area transit systems. Facilities in Wisconsin's Fourth Congressional District will receive approximately one-third of the funding. Congresswoman Moore and other members of the Wisconsin Congressional Delegation requested the grant for Wisconsin's public transit system earlier this year and worked together during budget negotiations to advocate for the funds.

"These funds will help to modernize Milwaukee's buses and equip them to meet the needs of disabled passengers, meaning that more of my constituents will be able to use the bus system to get to work," said Congresswoman Moore. "Additionally, these funds will furnish our buses with new diesel engines, providing for cleaner air in southeastern Wisconsin."

"Improving our transportation infrastructure is vital for promoting economic growth, lessening congestion and maintaining public safety," said Senator Kohl. "These funds will help a variety of transportation projects and programs throughout our state."

The \$2.125 million will fund bus capital acquisitions and other capital equipment needs for the entire state of Wisconsin. Buses will be equipped with wheelchair lifts and clean diesel engines, improving rider accessibility and helping buses comply with today's more stringent environmental standards.

The Senate-House Treasury, Transportation, Housing and Urban Development appropriations conference report now goes to the President to be signed into law.

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